(ii) Steps have been undertaken to substantially increase the forest cover through afforestation/tree planting activities both within & outside Government forest area.

(iii) All the States/UT Governments have been requested to implement the recommendations of the Policy Advisory Groups on wood substitution and fuelwood conservation.

(iv) Financial assistance is being provided to the States/UTs for rehabilitation of degraded forest through involvement of tribals and rural poor and also for control of forest fires.

(v) Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 has been enacted to regulate the diversion of forest lands for non-forestry purposes without prior approval of the Central Government.

कृषि भूमि की वर्षा के पानी पर निर्भरता

320. श्री राम जेठमलानी: क्या कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि देश में कृषि भूमि का काफी बड़ा भाग वर्षा के पानी पर निर्भर करता है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो भूमि का कितना क्षेत्र सिंचाई के लिए वर्षा पर निर्भर रहता है; और

(ग) बड़ी और मध्यम सिंचाई परियोजनाओं पर निर्भर करने वाले भूमि के क्षेत्र का अनुमान क्या है?

कृषि मंत्री (श्री चतुरानन मिश्र): (क) जी, हां।

(ख) वर्ष 1992-93 के भूमि प्रयोग संबंधी आंकड़ों (नवीनतम उपलब्ध) के अनुसार, देश में वर्षा पर निर्भर करने वाला निवल क्षेत्र 92.41 मिलियन हैक्टेयर अर्थात् बोये गए 142.51 मिलियन हैक्टेयर के निवल क्षेत्र का लगभग 64.8 प्रतिशत था।

(ग) बड़ी तथा मध्यम सिंचाई परियोजनाओं के अंतर्गत उपयोग की गई क्षमता का आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना अर्थात् 1996-97 के अंत तक 30.56 मिलियन हैक्टेयर हो जाने की संभावना है।

Funds for Horticultural Development in Andhra Pradesh

321. SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether funds have been allocated for horticultural development in Andhra Pradesh; and

(b) if not, what fruits are being financially encouraged by the Government in Andhra Pradesh, with full details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise. The fruits being supported for improving the productivity and production in Andhra Pradesh are Cashew, Coconut, Mango, Guava, Sapota, Ber, Citrus, Custard apple and Pomegranate.

Integrated Fanning System

322. DR. NAUNIHAL SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the development of integrated farming system for sustainable agriculture is one of the thrust areas in agricultural research and education;

(b) if so, the details of efforts made in this regard in the Eighth Five Year Plan; and

(c) how far these have helped in achieving the desired results?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) For sustainable agriculture, efforts were focussed on (i) conservation and exploitation of germplasm resources; (ii) improved agronomic practices; (iii) integrated nutrient and pest management; (iv) conservation and efficient use of soil and water resources; and